

**Amendments to the Claims:**

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

**Listing of Claims:**

1. (original) A gas burner, said burner comprising a metal burner membrane, said membrane comprising a base section having a smallest radius of curvature being  $R_{\text{base}}$  and a closing section, characterised in that said membrane being uninterrupted comprises a transition region for connecting said base section to said closing section, said transition region having a smallest radius of curvature  $r_{\text{transition}}$  being larger than zero and being smaller or equal to said  $R_{\text{base}}$ .
2. (original) A gas burner as in claim 1, wherein said membrane comprises a fabric comprising stainless steel fibres.
3. (original) A gas burner as in claim 2, wherein said stainless steel fibres are arranged essentially parallel into bundles.
4. (original) A gas burner as in claim 3, wherein said bundles are knitted or braided or woven.
5. (original) A gas burner as in claim 1, wherein said membrane comprises a foraminated plate or sheet.
6. (original) A gas burner as in claim 1, wherein said burner membrane comprises a foraminated plate, said transition region is at the outside disposed with stainless steel fibres.
7. (original) A gas burner as in claim 6, wherein said base section and said closing section are at least partially disposed with stainless steel fibres.
8. (currently amended) A gas burner as in ~~any one of claims 6 to 7~~ claim 6, wherein said stainless steel fibres are arranged essentially parallel into bundles.

9. (original) A gas burner as in claim 8, wherein said bundles are knitted or braided or woven.

10. (currently amended) A gas burner as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein said base section has a frustoconical shape.

11. (currently amended) A gas burner as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein said base section has a cylindrical shape.

12. (currently amended) A gas burner as in claim 10 ~~or 11~~ wherein said transition region is part of a torus surface delimited by two planes perpendicular to the axis of symmetry of said torus.

13. (currently amended) A gas burner as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein said base section has a polygonal cross section, the corners of said cross section being rounded.

14. (currently amended) A gas burner as in claim 1 ~~to 9~~, wherein said base section has a rectangular cross section, the corners of said cross section being rounded.

15. (currently amended) A gas burner as in ~~any one of claims 1 to 9~~ claim 1, wherein said base section is a truncated pyramid, said pyramid having rounded edges